AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising:

a rack system having a first rail and a second rail;

a housing containing electronic equipment attached to said first and second rails; and

a flame shield attached to said housing, wherein said flame shield at least partially covers a lower side of said housing, wherein said flame shield includes an extended surface portion, which extends outwardly away from an edge of said housing, and wherein said edge of said housing is defined by the junction of a rear surface and a bottom surface of said housing.

2. (Original) The combination according to claim 1, wherein said flame shield completely covers said lower side of said housing.

3. (Original) The combination according to claim 2, wherein said flame shield abuts said lower side of said housing.

4. (Original) The combination according to claim 1, further comprising:

a power supply attached to said first and second rails, wherein said power supply is located below said flame shield on said rack system.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The combination according to claim 1 ~~claim 5~~, wherein said extended surface portion defines an upwardly opening cable ~~a cable~~ guide.

8. (Original) The combination according to claim 1, wherein said housing is a plastic digital cross connection (DSX) panel and said right and left rails are substantially parallel.

9. (Original) The combination according to claim 1, wherein said flame shield is formed of metal.

10. (Original) The combination according to claim 1, wherein said housing is attached to said rack system by bolts or screws.

11. (Original) The combination according to claim 10, wherein said bolts or screws also attach said flame shield to said rack system.

12. (Original) A combination comprising:

a flame shield including a substantially rectangular planar portion, a first tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a first mounting hole extending therethrough, a second tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a second mounting hole extending therethough, wherein said flame shield is

sized and shaped to be conformable to a lower surface of a digital cross connect (DSX) panel, such that said first and second mounting holes align with mounting holes formed on the DSX panel for attaching the DSX panel to a rack system.

13. (Original) The combination according to claim 12, wherein said flame shield is formed of metal.

14. (Original) The combination according to claim 12, wherein said first tab further includes a third mounting hole extending therethrough and said second tab further includes a fourth mounting hole extending therethough, such that said first, second, third and fourth mounting holes align with mounting holes formed on the DSX panel for attaching the DSX panel to the rack system.

15. (Original) The combination according to claim 12, wherein said first tab extends from a first side edge of said planar portion and said second tab extends from a second opposite side edge of said planar portion, and wherein said flame shield further includes an extended surface portion, which extends outwardly away from a rear edge of said planar portion, said extended surface portion forming an acute angle relative to a plane including said planar portion, such that said extended portion slants below said planar portion.

16. (Original) The combination according to claim 15, wherein said extended portion includes a bend such that said extended portion slants back toward said plane including said planar portion and presents a substantially v-shape in cross section.

17. (Original) The combination according to claim 15, wherein said flame shield further includes a third tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion and attached to said first side edge with a first screw hole extending therethrough, and a fourth tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion and attached to said second side edge with a second screw hole extending therethough, such that a first and second screw may be inserted through said first and second screw holes to attached said flame shield to the DSX panel.

18. (Original) A combination comprising:

a rack system having a first rail and a second rail;

a housing containing electronic equipment attached to said first and second rails; and

a flame shield attached to said housing, wherein said flame shield at least partially covers a lower side of said housing, wherein said housing is a digital cross connect (DSX) panel and wherein said flame shield includes a substantially rectangular planar portion, a first tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a first mounting hole extending therethrough, a second tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a second mounting hole extending therethough, wherein said flame

shield is sized and shaped to be conformable to a lower surface of said DSX panel, such that said first and second mounting holes align with mounting holes formed on the DSX panel for attaching said DSX panel to said rack system.

19. (Original) The combination according to claim 18, wherein said DSX panel is attached to said rack system by bolts or screws, and wherein said bolts or screws also attach said flame shield to said rack system.

20. (Original) The combination according to claim 18, wherein said flame shield is formed of metal.

21. (New) The combination according to claim 7, wherein said upwardly opening cable guide is v-shaped.

22. (New) The combination according to claim 1, wherein said flame shield includes a substantially rectangular planar portion, a first tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a first mounting feature, a second tab extending substantially perpendicular to said planar portion with a second mounting feature, wherein said flame shield is sized and shaped to be conformable to a lower surface of said housing containing electronic equipment, such that said first and second mounting features cooperate with mounting features of said housing containing electronic equipment for attaching said housing containing electronic equipment to said rack system.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 7. This sheet replaces the original Fig. 7. on record.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes